

Louis since 1967, when he began his career as a substitute city letter carrier. He served the Postal Service in many capacities before reaching the rank of Customer Service Manager at St. Louis' Overland postal facility.

Sadly, the St. Louis area and all of America suddenly lost Mr. Gaffney on December 26 at the age of only 54. I commend the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for introducing this meaningful measure that celebrates the life and career of Mr. Gaffney. His outstanding resume includes the position of Superintendent of Branch Operations, Network Planning Specialist, and Manager of Customer Service for several USPS branches in St. Louis. He will be missed, and I hope that the Gaffney family will take some comfort in the likelihood that soon a postal facility in Mr. Gaffney's hometown will be named after him.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 1596 to honor the legacy of Timothy Michael Gaffney's career with the United States Postal Service.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise as a sponsor of H.R. 1596, a bill to honor the memory of U.S. Postal Service employee Timothy Michael Gaffney, and would like to thank the membership of the entire Missouri delegation for their cosponsorship on this measure.

Mr. Gaffney, while a manager at the Overland Post Office for 2 short years, made a huge impact on the employees there. In the words of one co-worker, Leslie Beck, "He was a personable manager who managed with a huge heart. He continued to help his employees with their personal problems, such as death of elderly parents. We had an employee pass away with cancer, another employee's wife who passed away with cancer at age 49, and yet another employee's daughter who passed away at age 10 with a brain tumor. This was all in the year 2002. It was a very emotional year for all of us, but he was there as support to all of us.

"Then Tim's passing in December 2002 was devastating to all of us. We are working through our grief by planting a tree, purchasing a nice bench and putting it in a peaceful area at the Post Office, and purchasing a memorial plaque for Tim. We have raised almost \$600 from just our employees for these projects. We have not asked for or would take money from anywhere else. This had to be all from just us. We are his 'Postal Family'. He was there for us, and we are there for him."

Madam Speaker, renaming the Overland Post Office in honor of Mr. Gaffney would appear to be a fitting reminder of his role and dedication to the community.

I would be remiss if I did not share the full scope of Mr. Gaffney's life both on the job and in his private life. Born on October 30, 1948, Mr. Gaffney was

the son of Joseph and Lorayne Gaffney, both deceased as well. A sister Jill Delonjay, and a brother, Mark Gaffney, both live in the St. Louis area, as does a nephew, Tom Harris, who also works for the U.S. Postal Service. Divorced, Mr. Gaffney had no children.

As a youngster, he attended Buder Elementary School and Christian Brothers College High School. It was shortly after high school graduation that he began working part-time at a local Post Office in the St. Louis area. In 1972, Mr. Gaffney received a teaching degree from the University of Missouri at St. Louis. Also, he served proudly and honorably in the Missouri Army National Guard from 1970 to 1976.

He remained active in alumni activities at the Christian Brothers College High School and an avid golfer; he supported the school's charitable golf tournaments, as well as being a great supporter of CBC's football team. Mr. Gaffney showered other organizations with his support, including the Backstoppers and their support for firefighters and police officers. Working with the Combined Federal Campaign in the Postal Service, Mr. Gaffney helped the Overland Station rank number 5 in the St. Louis area for donations to charities. It was very important to him to support charities.

Finally, a big Rams football fan, he was a season ticket holder. I urge Members to support this measure in tribute to a man whose life meant so much to his co-workers and his community.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) for introducing this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1596.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### ROBERT P. HAMMER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1625) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 Main Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey, as the "Robert P. Hammer Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1625

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. ROBERT P. HAMMER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 Main Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey, shall be known and designated as the "Robert P. Hammer Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Robert P. Hammer Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1625.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1625, introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 Main Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey, as the Robert P. Hammer Post Office Building. The entire delegation from the State of New Jersey has cosponsored this legislation.

Madam Speaker, Robert P. Hammer was the highly regarded city manager of the New York City suburb of Clifton. He was credited with promoting rapid business expansion which helped to revitalize this northeastern New Jersey community. He improved countless roads, city parks, and single-handedly orchestrated a complex reorganization of city departments that greatly increased their efficiency. Unfortunately, Mr. Hammer's 7-year tenure as Clifton city manager and his distinguished life was cut tragically short when he passed away last December 20, just over 1 week before the beginning of his retirement.

By scanning the news clips that covered his funeral service last December, the words that appear time and again to describe Mr. Hammer include "wonderful," "respected," "friend," "leader" and even "hero." The prayers and condolences of this House go out to Mr. Hammer's wife, Kathleen, and their five children, Megan, Sean, Kelly, Staci and Brett. He was a man who was genuinely devoted to public service. He cared deeply about his community, his friends, and his family, and worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all Clifton residents.

I urge all Members to honor Mr. Hammer by supporting the passage of H.R. 1625.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) for his generous words.

I want to also thank this Congress for moving this and putting this on a fast track. Hopefully next month this Post Office will open up, and it will be a fitting gesture from Congress.

I rise today to speak in strong support of H.R. 1625, legislation to name the new postal facility in Clifton, New Jersey, after a really great public servant, Robert P. "Bob" Hammer, former city manager of Clifton, New Jersey.

He was a man who understood what public service was all about. He was honest. His word was his bond. He had integrity. He was a fixture at city hall and in the community, a leader who worked each day to improve the life of every Clifton resident. He was a city manager for 7 years before succumbing to a serious health problem in December 2002 at the age of 54.

In his position as city manager, Madam Speaker, Bob Hammer oversaw a blooming Main Avenue business district. How many towns throughout this landscape we call America are older towns trying to fight back and become part of the economic dream. It is our hope that the new downtown Post Office will be an anchor that holds the redevelopment together and brings residents down to the local businesses. This was one of his dreams.

Naming this Post Office after Bob is an appropriate tribute for an extraordinary individual. He helped improve city parks and playgrounds and ushered in scores of new businesses and homes to this great city even during very tough economic times. He was credited with guiding Clifton through a period of economic growth all while maintaining minimal tax increases. There is no question that Robert Hammer left Clifton a better city than when he started.

How often can we say that for individuals throughout this great country, and that is all anybody can ever ask of us, did we leave the place a little better than how we found it?

A father of five, Bob Hammer developed strong friendships with his humor and his professionalism. He was a leader in the truest sense of word, and a tremendous public servant. My friend and mayor of Clifton, New Jersey, James Anzaldi, said that never in his 30 years of service in Clifton government has he known anyone with Hammer's leadership qualities.

A native of Stanhope, New Jersey, Bob earned a Master's Degree in public administration from Farleigh Dickinson University, and a Bachelor's Degree in commerce from Rider College.

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He was a member of the New Jersey and International City Managers Association,

the New Jersey Finance Officers Association, and New Jersey International Clerks' Association. He was also an adjunct staff member of Montclair State University, which is also in the Eighth Congressional District.

Before working for Clifton, Bob Hammer was a borough administrator in Oakland, Bergen County, and borough administrator in Bloomingdale, Passaic County. He was a parishioner of St. Philip the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Clifton and a member of the St. Philip's Knights of Columbus. He was also a past president of the Clifton Rotary. He was a dedicated husband and a great father and son. I know how proud the whole family feels about him.

Our thoughts are with his wife Kathy; his five children, Megan, Kelly, Sean, Brett and Staci; and his parents, Stanley and Vera Hammer, of Stanhope, New Jersey. My staff and I have fond memories of working with Bob on a host of issues over the years. He was on my transportation advisory committee. We worked on Clifton highway interchanges, access to mass transit facilities, and pedestrian safety measures. Government and politics is all local, as someone who stood in your place, Madam Speaker, said many, many times.

Most recently, I was able to work with Mayor Anzaldi and Bob and other Clifton officials and representatives of the U.S. Postal Service to make the new postal facility in Clifton, New Jersey, a reality. The new postal building, which is currently in its final phase of construction, is on schedule to be completed next month. It will service the people of Clifton. The fact that this construction got done at all is a tribute to Bob Hammer.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House to pass this fitting tribute to my friend and our friend, Bob Hammer.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for introducing this legislation. I urge all Members to support the passage of this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I simply join with the gentleman from New Jersey in promoting passage of this resolution. I think he has eloquently spoken of the tremendous value of Mr. Hammer to the community where he lived and worked. I simply join with him and urge swift passage of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1625, which names a facility of the U.S. Postal Service, located at 1114 Main Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey, after Robert P. Hammer, was introduced by Representative BILL PASCRELL (D-NJ) on April 3, 2003.

Mr. Robert Hammer served as the Clifton City Manager for seven years before he

passed away on December 20, 2002. Long heralded as a distinguished public servant, Mr. Hammer held a number of important positions in city government.

A native of Stanhope, New Jersey, Mr. Hammer had a bachelor's degree in Commerce from Rider College and a master's degree in public administration from Farleigh Dickinson University. In addition, he was a certified municipal finance officer and a registered municipal clerk. He served on numerous State associations and was known throughout the State for his leadership ability and for being inclusive and promoting unity.

Madam Speaker, the Mayor and City Council of Clifton, New Jersey, support this bill. As I understand it, the postal facility to be named after Mr. Hammer, is being built in Clifton and should be operational this month.

I support this measure and urge its swift passage.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1625.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### DR. CAESAR A.W. CLARK, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1740) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1502 East Kiest Boulevard in Dallas, Texas, as the "Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1740

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DR. CAESAR A.W. CLARK, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1502 East Kiest Boulevard in Dallas, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.